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TWENTY-NINTH YEAR.

## THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH; TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1899

Forecast for Salt Lake Today Is:  
Fair; warmer.

NUMBER 45

BURY C. MORRIS  
SHOT TO DEATH

Well Known Salt Laker Killed  
By John Benbrook.

JEALOUSY THE CAUSE  
OF THE FATAL QUARREL

Miss Leda Stromberg the Woman in  
the Case.

The Two Men and Miss Stromberg  
Met in an Upstairs Room at the  
Merchants' Cafe—Quarrelled and  
Went into Another Room, Where  
the Fatal Encounter Occurred—  
Benbrook Claims It Was Self-defence—Mysterious Meeting.

Burton C. Morris, the florist, was shot to death in an upstairs room of the Merchants' Cafe between 7:30 and 8 o'clock last night by John Benbrook, a gambler. Both parties are well known and the shooting tragedy caused greater excitement than any like affair since the killing of Walt Dinwiddie by Harry Hynds three years ago. Benbrook is charged with the murder. The trouble was a girl, Leda Stromberg, with whom both men are said to have been infatuated, and out of her visit to the restaurant with Benbrook the killing occurred.

There is no direct evidence to show that Benbrook killed Morris deliberately. He will plead self-defence. Probably the person who knows more details of the affair than any other is Charles Daly, a waiter, who will say absolutely nothing before he is forced to do so on the witness stand.



SCENE OF THE SHOOTING.

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The first person in the room after the shooting was Albert Morris, a cousin of the dead man, who was eating in the restaurant at the time. He found Benbrook astride the dying man, who was lying on the floor, and he rushed to the aid of the victim. He and Officer Chase, who arrived in an instant later, took the weapon from Benbrook. The latter immediately denied ownership of the weapon and Benbrook called him a liar, saying: "I saw it in your hand." Detective Sheets and Officer Eddington reached the scene at about the same time as Chase, and the detective walked with Benbrook to the police station.

The wounded man lived about three minutes, but was unable to recognize his cousin or any of those about him. He expired while Albert was running for a doctor.

Evidence of Struggle.

The room bore every evidence of a struggle. A chair was overturned and had fallen under the table. The tablecloth was disheveled and the table was covered with a mess of food. A few moments before, and was not seen again until an hour after the shooting, when she returned through the back entrance almost prostrated with grief and excitement. It is rumored that two girls were in the case, the second being a young lady in the company of the Oregon Short Line at Ogden. Judge W. H. Dickson, who was one of the first

to visit the scene, asserts that he saw two women and a man, the latter leading to the back entrance. The name of the second woman, if the report be true, is not known, and her presence was unknown to the restaurant proprietors. As none of the parties concerned will talk freely, the facts in the case are difficult to establish. Statements are very conflicting. Miss Stromberg and Morris (the dead man) were seen together at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and again at 5. She states that she was with Morris last evening, but when asked direct if she went to the restaurant with Morris or Benbrook, she would not answer. She refused to talk to Chief Hilton, Detective Sheets or Attorney Gunter.

## ALBERT MORRIS' STORY.

Men Were Struggling When He Entered the Room.

Albert C. Morris, the cousin of the dead man, was the first to go into the room after the shooting, and the story he tells of the scene is graphic and interesting, although until a late hour last night he was very nervous and unstrung over the affair.

Morris was eating supper in the main room of the restaurant on the ground floor, having gone in about 7:30. He heard three or four shots fired; he did not know which.

forward and grabbed his hand. Just at that moment the policeman, who had evidently followed closely behind him, reached out, too, and grabbed at the gun. It was secured by the officer and Benbrook walked out of the room.

"I paid no more attention to him, but turned to Burt, who had fallen full on his face upon the floor. He groaned as he lay down, but said nothing at all, not a word. His breath was hard at the time, and I rushed down stairs to get a doctor, meeting Dr. Bowers in my buggy. I sent him up and went back."

The statement of Albert Morris contradicts that of Officer Chase in some respects. He said that Benbrook did not leave the room until Detective Sheets arrived, and Chase also declared that Benbrook was standing astraddle of Burt Morris' prostrate form and striking him with the gun.

## WHAT OFFICER CHASE SAW.

Benbrook Told Him It Was Not His Gun.

Officer Chase, who was the first policeman to reach the scene, was called, he said, by Hack Driver Sanborn. The officer had just telephoned to the station his 7:30 report when Sanborn came up to him.

"Sanborn said to me that Morris and Benbrook were struggling; that Benbrook had a gun, and that if I didn't come at once there would be trouble. I started over rapidly, and when I had come about half the distance I heard four shots—two and then two more—after a very short interval. I ran upstairs and into the room.

"Morris was prostrate upon the floor, face downwards, and Benbrook was kneeling down beside him in the act of striking him with the gun, when I reached over Albert Morris and caught the gun from his hand. At the same time I took hold of his arms and said: 'It's not my gun,' said Benbrook, and that is the only statement he made to me.

"But young Morris reached up and said: 'You are a liar; it is your gun; I saw you with it.'

"Benbrook did not go out of the room. He submitted calmly when he saw me, and made no effort to get away. Detective Sheets and Officer Eddington came up at once and took



JOHN H. BENBROOK.

it from his grasp and it was discharged several times in the scuffle that followed.

After the shooting.

Scenes of Excitement About the Place of Tragedy.

An immense crowd flocked to the Merchants' Cafe immediately after the shooting. A dozen or more policemen came over and were busy in keeping the people from rushing upstairs and into the restaurant.

Away across Main street and up and down the sidewalks the crowds were so thick that passersby could not move through the throng. Police Sergeant Brown, who came at once, took charge of the crowd. He stationed one man at the stairway, and officers about the sidewalks, while Officer Chase, who had been the first to reach the scene of the tragedy, remained on duty by the room upstairs where the fight had occurred.

The scene of confusion and turmoil. Doctors Bower and Stewart, who had come shortly after the shooting, soon left. The body lay stretched upon the floor in the place where it had fallen. Relatives of the dead man had come—Ernest E. Morris and George L. Morris, cousins of Burt. One of them was so overcome by the suddenness of the shock that he lay upon the sofa and groaned.

The room showed signs of a scuffle, but there was no furniture broken. The sofa was pulled out from the wall and a chair was overturned, while the tablecloth of the large table was askew. It is a peculiar incident, the fact that the stubs of two cigars that had been laid upon the table had burned a hole through the cloth. Whether these had been smoked by Morris and Benbrook is not known.

There were no glasses or dishes on the table showing that anything had been drunk or eaten. Nor were there any indications of eating or drinking in the back room, which had been occupied by Morris and Miss Stromberg just before the tragedy. This room has a large table in the center of it, but there were no glasses or knives or forks upon it. The window to the room is just a few feet north of the entrance to the front room and across the hallway. The distance is about eight feet.

Bullets Not Accounted For.

Notwithstanding that at least three shots were fired, and possibly four, not one bullet and one mark was found in the room. Sergeant Burbridge, who made an examination when the body of the dead man was removed, found a bullet lodged either in the sofa at the south side of the room. There was a mark in the wall a foot

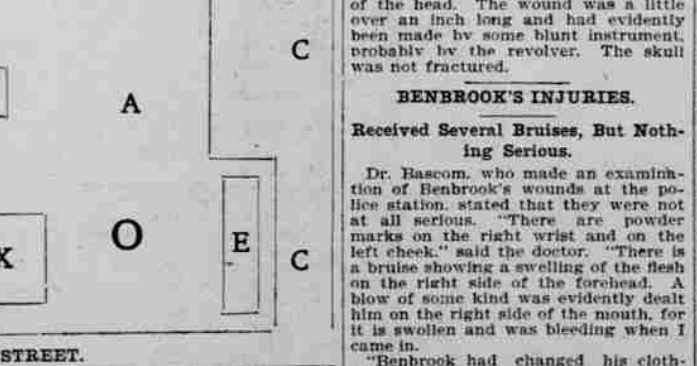
charge of the prisoner. I remained at the door to keep out the crowd."

BENBROOK'S STATEMENT.

Says Morris Attacked Him With a Gun.

Benbrook's story of the tragedy, as related to Detective Sheets, is that he was in the room with the girls (Leda Stromberg and Morris) when he

DIAGRAM OF SECOND FLOOR, WHERE SHOOTING OCCURRED.



D Hall. C Stairway. O Spot Where Morris Fell. E Sofa. X Tables A Room in Which Shooting Occurred. B Room Occupied by Benbrook and Miss Stromberg.

calling more than one) when Morris came in and started to pick a quarrel. It was becoming quite heated when the Stromberg girl jumped between them and the (Benbrook) went into another room, followed by Morris. He then claims that Morris drew a revolver and tried to fire, but he wrested

## KILLED BY BANDITS

Colorado Sheriff the Victim of Pursued Train Robbers.

## REPULSED THE POSSE

ONE OF THE OUTLAWS WAS ALSO SHOT TO DEATH.

Three Men Who Held Up the Colorado Southern Recently Overtaken By Officers and a Desperate Battle Lasting Forty-five Minutes Ensued, Near Cimarron, N. M.

Las Vegas, N. M., July 17.—Details were received here this morning of a pitched battle between a sheriff's posse and the gang of outlaws who held up the Colorado Southern passenger train at Folsom, N. M., a few days ago. The affray occurred near Cimarron, N. M., a member of the posse, was killed. Deputies Love and Smith of Springer, N. M., were probably fatally wounded. W. H. Reno, chief of the secret service department of the Colorado Southern, was also wounded. The robbers escaped to the hills. Another posse was organized at Cimarron and is now in pursuit of the robbers.

Marshall Littrell, livestock inspector, arrived here at 1 o'clock this afternoon, bringing further details of the fight at Cimarron, as he had learned there.

"It occurred this morning," he said, "in the canyon above Cimarron. In a very rough piece of country. The news was telephoned to Springer from Cimarron just before I left there. The posse was led by Sheriff Ed Farr of Folsom, Colo., and United States Marshal Foraker of New Mexico. The posse numbered six men. The force divided, three members advancing upon the outlaws from opposite directions.

The Sheriff Fell Dead.

"One of the outlaws had a dead shot. Sheriff Farr was killed and Henry Love and a man named Smith, members of the posse, were wounded. Love was hit twice, one shot going through his thigh. Foraker returned to Cimarron and telephoned that all of his posse had been wounded.

The identity of the outlaws is not known. And little doubt is entertained of their being the same individuals who held up the train at Folsom a few days ago and also near or more ago. While Mr. Littrell did not learn the exact location of their camp it is believed to have been comparatively close to Cimarron, probably two or three miles away.

Cimarron is a place of about 200 people and is situated close to the mouth of the canyon and twenty-three miles from Springer. The outlaws have been noticed hanging about in the vicinity for some time past.

Nothing certain is known. It is thought by members of the posse that one or more of the outlaws who are three in number, have been wounded by the officers.

One Robber Killed.

Word was received here late today that the dead body of one of the train robbers concerned in the Folsom train hold up had been conveyed to Cimarron, N. M., from the scene of the fight and was afterwards taken to Springer, where an inquest was held tonight.

The man was a white man, about 35 years of age, of medium build, weighing about 200 pounds and is of light complexion. The other two robbers are being pursued by the posse and are believed to be hiding in the hills by a posse of twenty men.

Later accounts of the fight state that the train robbers were overtaken at about 6 o'clock Sunday evening at W. H. Reno, ten miles above Cimarron. They were preparing to go into camp and were repelled in the negative direction of the train.

Was a Long Battle.

The firing lasted about forty-five minutes. Special Officer Reno remained on the scene until 8 o'clock Sunday morning, when he was taken to the hospital. He was shot through the chest and the wound was serious. The posse was repelled and the train was allowed to proceed.

His Suspenders Saved Him.

Diverted Course of Bullet Fired by a Wounded Robber.

New Orleans, July 17.—A pair of suspenders saved the life of Charles L. Rockel, runner for the Metropolitan bank, today. Rockel had just entered the bank to begin his duties when an outlaw shot at him from a distance of ten miles. The bullet struck the junction of Rockel's suspenders and carried it into the man's back.

When the suspenders were pulled at all serious. "There are powder marks on the right wrist and on the left cheek," said the doctor. "There is a bruise showing a swelling of the flesh on the right side of the forehead. A blow of some kind was evidently dealt him on the right side of the mouth, for it is swollen and was bleeding when I came in."

Benbrook had changed his clothing at the police station, and the old garments were held in evidence. There were a few spots of blood on the coat and another on the standing collar, which was mused and bent, showing violent movement of some kind.

MISS STROMBERG HYSTERICAL.

Declares She Does Not Know How It Happened.

victims. He leaves a widow and eight children.

An attempt has been made to kill Will Gray near Manchester. After three shots had passed through his clothes, one of them striking his body, he escaped by running through a forest. Gray is one of Baker's ironists.

## CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Officers in Indian Territory Who Executed William Going.

Antlers, I. T., July 17.—Deputy Marshal Burt Brown returned to Antlers this evening, having in charge A. H. Clay and Simon Tyler, district attorney and clerk of the Third district, Choctaw nation, on warrants charging them with murder, the offense being the advising of the spirit of Wolf county to proceed with the execution of William Going on Thursday last.

Sheriff Watson was not at home when the deputy marshal called for him, but a message was left to the effect that he was wanted, and it is expected he will report to the federal authorities at Antlers tomorrow.

## JEALOUS RIVAL SUSPECTED.

Connecticut Man Murdered After Calling on a Young Lady.

Chester, Conn., July 17.—Harry Chadwick, aged 21, of New Britain, called on a young lady here Saturday night, and since then has been missing. His bicycle, hat and cuffs were found near Clark's creek, and there were blood stains on the ground.

It is thought he was murdered by a jealous rival and thrown into the creek.

## Says Mrs. Rich Is Insane.

Austin, Tex., July 17.—A special from Corsicana, Tex., says: Dr. P. S. Jenkins, who lived at El Paso at one time, knows, intimately, Mrs. Rich, who is to be surrendered to the Mexican government for trial on a charge of murdering her husband. He says the woman is undoubtedly insane.

Cashier Will Plead Guilty.

New York, July 17.—George W. Valentine, who wrecked the Middlesex County bank at Perth Amboy, N. J., has retained former Judge Rice as associate counsel with Lawyer Savage, and the bank would plead guilty and take the consequences of his crime.

## Lewiston Embellisher Arrested.

Seattle, Wash., July 17.—Joseph N. Dorsey was arrested today on a warrant with General Ota for burglary with embezzlement.

## CALLED ON THE PRESIDENT

COEUR D'ALENE MINERS VISIT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Explain to Mr. McKinley the Situation Growing Out of the Recent Labor Troubles.

Washington, July 17.—President McKinley today was called upon by Senator Carter of Montana and Senator Baile of Idaho, accompanied by Edward Boyce of Butte, Mont., president of the Western Federation of Miners, and W. R. Goldsmith, secretary of the local miners' union at Wardner, Ida. The last-named gentlemen are a committee representing the miners lately engaged in the strike at the Wardner mine, which resulted in the killing of a miner and the capture of several others under General Merriam at the request of the governor of Idaho.

The interview with the president lasted some time and the entire session was thoroughly discussed. The committee informed the president that the presence of the troops had been represented in a false light and asked that in their own opinion the federal authorities were being abused in an illegitimate manner.

The president told the committee that the troops had been sent only on the request of the governor and were there for no other purpose than to preserve the peace. After the interview both members of the committee expressed themselves as entirely satisfied with the attitude of the administration, which they asserted had been misrepresented by the local authorities.

## MADE FORMAL COMPLAINT.

President Will Investigate Charges Against General Merriam.

(Special to The Herald.) Washington, July 17.—Edward Boyce of Butte, president of the Western Federation of Miners, and W. R. Goldsmith, secretary of the local miners' union at Wardner, Ida. The last-named gentlemen are a committee representing the miners lately engaged in the strike at the Wardner mine, which resulted in the killing of a miner and the capture of several others under General Merriam at the request of the governor of Idaho.

The representatives of the miners made formal complaint against General Merriam. The president assured them that if General Merriam had in any way interfered with the employment of labor it was unknown to him. He also promised prompt and thorough investigation.

Ex-Governor Under a Cloud.

Lincoln, Neb., July 17.—The senate investigating committee is now conducting an inquiry into the conduct of the governor's office during the four years' incumbency of Silas A. Holcomb. An alleged discrepancy of \$100,000 between the treasury by the ex-governor for house rent and the amounts paid to the owner of the house was brought out in the testimony of Former Deputy Hedlund and Mrs. Charlotte Gould, owner of the house where Mr. Holcomb lived. The ex-governor will probably appear before the committee during the week.

## THE HERALD BULLETIN.

Killed By Bandits.

Otis' Stories of Deception.

Cape Nome Is a Fake.

Contracts Let For St. Anthony Road.

Victory For Trusts.

Defends Its Actions.

Editorial.

New Primary Plan.

At the Resorts.

Complaints of Wives.

State News.

Page Six.

Page Seven.

Page Eight.

Page Nine.

Page Ten.

Page Eleven.

Page Twelve.

Page Thirteen.

Page Fourteen.

Page Fifteen.

Page Sixteen.

## OTIS' STORIES OF DECEPTION

Misrepresents the Situation in the Philippines.

## EFFORTS TO FOOL AMERICAN PEOPLE

Strong Protest From Newspaper Men at Manila.

## Claim That the Press Censor Prevents Them Giving to Their Papers Reports of the True Conditions, and Forces Them to Let People of the United States Believe That the Filipinos Are Demoralized, Which Is Not True.

Manila, July 17 (via Hongkong, July 17).—The sensational increasing strictness of the censorship of press dispatches from Manila, which has prevented the cabling to the United States of anything that did not reflect official views of important events and conditions, resulted in a united effort on the part of correspondents here to secure an abatement of the rigor of the censorship. The initiative in this direction was taken a month ago and resulted in the framing of a statement which was presented on Sunday, July 9, to Major General Otis, commanding the military forces of the United States in the Philippines, with a request for permission to telegraph to the United States.

The correspondents also asked for permission to cable their respective papers all the facts and different phases of events as they transpired here. The correspondents had two long interviews with General Otis in the course of which they claimed that the evident purpose of the censorship was not to keep from the public a knowledge of the real condition of affairs here. It was also asserted by the correspondents that newspapers printed in Manila, which had been permitted to publish statements similar to those which correspondents furnished, had been prohibited from doing so by General Otis, that the objection was to the system and not to the content.

## Otis Makes a Promise.

General Otis finally promised greater liberality, agreeing to pass all matter which he might consider detrimental to the interests of the United States. General Otis appointed Captain Green of his staff secretary. The statement of the correspondents is as follows:

"We believe that from official dispatches made public in Washington, the people of the United States have not received a correct impression of the situation in the Philippines, but that these dispatches have presented an ultra optimistic view that is not shared by the general officers in the field. We believe that the dispatches incorrectly represent the existing conditions among the Philippines in respect to dissension and demoralization resulting from the American campaign and the brigand character of their army."

"We believe the dispatches err in the declaration that the situation is well in hand and the assumption that insurrection can be speedily ended without a greatly increased force."

## Statements Are Unfounded.

"We think the tenacity of the Filipino purpose has been underestimated and that the statements are unfounded that the people at home, or have the alarm of the United States by the press."

"The censorship has compelled us to participate in this misrepresentation by excluding or distorting statements of facts on the plea, as General Otis stated, that they would alarm the people at home, or have the alarm of the United States by the press."

"Specifications: Prohibition of full reports of field operations in the event of failure, numbers of heat prostrations in the field, systematic minimization of military operations, and suppression of complete reports of the situation."

"John T. McCutcheon, Harry Armstrong, Chicago Record; Oscar K. DeLoe, P. O. McDowell, New York Sun; Robert M. Collins, John P. Dunning, L. Jones, the Associated Press; John P. Hays, Will Dinwiddie, New York Herald; E. S. Keene, Scripps-McLean association; Richard Henry Little, Chicago Tribune."

## SENSATION AT WASHINGTON.

War Department Stirred Up Over Correspondents' Protest.

Washington, July 17.—The publication of the war correspondents' formal indictment of General Otis' management of the Philippine campaign has caused a sensation in the department here. Secretary Hay has received advice as late as today from civil as well as military sources in the Philippines which led him to declare that the situation there was constantly improved materially and the prospects for the future had brightened very much. With the advice, the secretary said, General Otis had had nothing to do, and they were from disinterested persons, whose opinions must carry weight. Generally there was strong disapprobation exhibited by the officials to discuss this last "round robin."

General Miles, who was acting secretary of war in the absence of Secretary Alger and Assistant Secretary Melckjohn, would not comment on the dispatch and Adjutant General Corbin took the same attitude.

## CORBIN MAKES DEFENSE.

Explains Why the Plan of Censorship Was Adopted.

Washington, July 17.—Regarding statements that cable dispatches received in Washington and other news regarding the war had been censored contrary to the usual custom, Adjutant General Corbin today said:

"Yes, these complaints have been brought to my notice, and a word of explanation is perhaps due to the country no less than the department. The enormous amount of work the office has been called upon to perform has taxed to the limit the endurance of the clerks, who, by the way, are as